

### **Homeowners' winter safety checklist**

#### Fireplaces and wood stoves

- Have chimneys inspected and cleaned annually.
- Use a sturdy fireplace screen when burning.
- Never leave fires unattended.
- Burn only wood. Paper and other products can send embers up and out of the chimney and ignite your roof or a neighboring home.
- Wood stoves should have a stove board underneath to protect the floor.
- Move anything flammable at least three feet from your fireplace or stove.

#### Space heaters

- Keep flammable materials at least three feet away from space heaters.
- Turn off space heaters when you leave your house.
- Check electric space heaters for fraying or splitting wires, or overheating.
- Safely vent fueled heaters to prevent carbon monoxide poisoning.
- Do not leave children or pets unattended with space heaters.